
▶ REGIONAL RESPONSE

➤ *Key Regional Response Activities by State Agencies*

Goal:

- *Implement a coordinated and balanced recovery response that moves us aggressively toward the salmon recovery goal while maintaining a healthy economy.*

Objectives:

- *Provide the framework for effective salmon recovery response.*
- *Use sound scientific concepts, principles and design approaches to guide development, implementation, monitoring and revision of statewide and regional conservation frameworks and plans.*
- *Collaborate with tribes, local governments, and the private sector to integrate local knowledge with flexibility and control at the local level into quantifiable state and regional salmon recovery plans.*
- *Provide incentives to assist and encourage development and implementation of regional structures.*
- *Provide guidelines and standards for use by local governments, which, if implemented, will extend any ESA protection granted the state.*
- *Monitor progress of state agencies and regional bodies in developing and implementing salmon recovery plans.*
- *Compile relevant components of state and regional salmon recovery and species management plans into responses to NMFS for specific ESU listings.*

Outcomes

Implementation of key regional response activities by state agencies will contribute to the following salmon recovery outcomes:

- *We will meet the needs of the endangered Species Act/Clean Water Act (B).*
- *We will reach out to citizens (I).*
- *Salmon recovery roles are defined and partnerships strengthened (J).*
- *Achieve cost-effective recovery and efficient use of government resources (K).*
- *Use the best available science and integrate monitoring and research with planning and implementation (L).*
- *Citizens, salmon recovery partners and state employees have timely access to the information, technical assistance, and funding they need to be successful (M).*

Reg-1.

Action: Assist local entities in developing regional recovery responses.

Key Tasks	Key tasks include: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Continue to support the Government Council on Natural Resources and other forum discussions of options for regional coordination and recovery and/or watershed responses and defining role and authority of regional recovery entities.2. Provide assistance to local government, tribal and other regional leaders as regional recovery entities are being formed. This will include facilitating communication with the Governor's Office and state agencies as needed.3. Assist regional recovery entities when developing regional salmon recovery plans to built, wherever possible, upon and incorporate the work of local lead entities under the Salmon Recovery Planning Act, the work of local planning units under the Watershed Management Act, and the work products of other equivalent watershed-based processes.4. Work with local entities to assure regional recovery efforts incorporate sound science and are consistent with state and federal laws and the Statewide Strategy to Recover Salmon.5. Develop incentives, which encourage "regionalizing" salmon recovery efforts and formation of regional recovery entities, for consideration by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB).6. Facilitate active and timely state participation in all phases of regional response planning and implementation. Form and convene state agency workgroups. Ensure that state's contribution is coordinated or consolidated with state agency participation in local technical advisory groups under the Salmon Recovery Planning Act and in state caucuses under the Watershed Management Act. As needed, facilitate state agencies (e.g. WDFW, Ecology, CC) providing technical and engineering assistance in regional recovery projects and plan development.7. Coordinate state review and response to draft regional plans as well as state involvement in the federal review and approval process under ESA for draft regional plans.
Output-work accomplished	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Regional incentives in funding policies and criteria as decided by SRFB.- Formation of additional regional recovery entities.- State agency information and planned actions incorporated into draft regional response plans.- State comments on draft regional response plans.- Draft and final regional response plans consistent with state and federal comments or requirements.

Time line & Key milestones	<p>Ongoing - Assistance to regional responses. Timing of draft regional plans will vary by region and sub-region; earliest may be Summer/Fall 2000. Summer or Fall 2001 - The earliest that complete drafts will be available. (Final drafts are dependent on federal agencies setting regional goals and ESA de-listing criteria.)</p>
Staffing (FTEs) & funding (\$ and sources)	<p>2.5 FTEs (GSRO 2; WDFW 0.5) Total: \$374,000 \$374,000 GF-S (GSRO \$300,000; WDFW \$74,000)</p>
Responsible Agency (ies)	<p>Cooperative effort with GSRO Lead – GSRO will facilitate discussion and decision, provide assistance to regional leaders and coordinate state involvement in regional recovery plan development. Several agencies will be key contributors to development and implementation of watershed plans and regional recovery plans - WDFW, ECY, CC, DNR, CTED, WDA, WSDOT, IAC, PSAT, and Tribes.</p> <p>Note: Recovering healthy salmon populations and responding to listings under the ESA require statewide, regional and watershed levels partnerships between state, federal, Tribal and local governments, and private entities. To achieve salmon recovery objectives, regional (i.e. ESU) recovery plans are needed that build upon watershed plans and data to address all of the factors necessary for salmon recovery within each region. The GSRO has identified seven salmon recovery regions, including three sub-regions for Puget Sound. Three regions (Lower Columbia, Upper Columbia, Snake River) and one sub-region (Puget Sound Central) have formed a regional structure. Additionally, many WRIAs have formed structures for salmon recovery.</p>

Reg-2.

Action: Create toolbox of recovery materials (guidelines, models, limiting factors analysis, critical path methodologies, alternative mitigation, education materials, etc.) for use by local watershed and regional recovery entities.

Key Tasks	<p>The Statewide Strategy to Recover Salmon and the implementation plan (i.e., Action Plan) include many actions that will produce statewide guidance relevant to salmon recovery and regional recovery responses. These products represent a toolbox of materials that will be collected and distributed for use by local regional recovery entities. Key tasks include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage and monitor development of the toolbox materials. 2. Collect and disseminate the materials as they are prepared. 3. Prepare statewide guidance for regional and watershed recovery plans for use by local watershed and regional recovery entities. <p>Examples of toolbox materials include: federal recovery guidelines, criteria and rules (NMFS/USFWS); limiting factors analysis guidance and products (CC); watershed assessment and planning guidelines; shoreline management guidelines; stormwater manual (ECY); stormwater program revisions (PSAT); best available science and other GMA guidelines (CTED); Forest and Fish guidelines related to local government (DNR); Agriculture/Fish/Water guidance (WDA, CC); funding allocation and priority criteria (SRFB), and “Salmon Tanks”.</p>
Output - work accomplished	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guidance for watershed plans and regional recovery plans. - Specific tools in the toolbox of recovery materials (examples above). - Dissemination of materials to regional recovery entities.
Time line & Key milestones	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Dates for draft and final tools vary for each tool. Initial collection of toolbox materials to be completed December 2000.</p> <p>December 2000- Guidance for watershed assessment and planning.</p>
Staffing (FTEs) & funding (\$ and sources)	<p>1.25 FTE (GSRO 0.75; WDFW 0.5)</p> <p>Total: \$195,000</p> <p>\$110,000 GF-S (GSRO \$75,000; WDFW \$35,000)</p> <p>\$ 65,000 GF-F (WDFW)</p> <p>\$ 20,000 Wildlife Fund – State (WDFW)</p>
Responsible Agency (ies)	<p>Coordinated effort with GSRO as lead to coordinate with agencies responsible for toolbox materials and to facilitate the usefulness of the materials to local regional recovery entities. Tribal governments and other agencies (e.g. WDFW, ECY, CTED) with lead responsibility for specific toolbox materials will also be responsible for coordination with other interested parties.</p>

Reg-3.

Action: Provide technical assistance and funding support to local entities formed under the 1998 Salmon Recovery Act (HB2496).

Key Tasks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conservation Commission staff will continue to provide technical assistance to Conservation Districts and to regional entities in developing and using limiting factors analysis (see Reg-5). 2. WDFW regional fishery and habitat biologists will continue to provide technical assistance to local and regional entities in developing recovery plans, conservation plans and scientific analysis related to salmon recovery efforts within the Puget Sound, Hood Canal and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. 3. WDFW, CC, and other agencies will continue to assist local entities with development of proposals to protect and restore freshwater and estuarine habitat through restoration projects, conservation easements and property acquisition. 4. WDFW will provide engineering support for complex habitat restoration projects. 5. WDFW will provide \$2.5 million in grants for operation of lead entities.
Output-work accomplished	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordinated state agencies' technical and engineering assistance for regional and watershed salmon recovery plans, specific habitat protection and restoration actions/activities and/or for project proposals. - Successful submission of science-based and prioritized habitat projects to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, and funding of high quality habitat protection and restoration projects.
Time line & Key milestones	Various timelines, highly variable due to number of entities and complexities of issues.
Staffing (FTEs) & funding (\$ and sources)	<p>27.2 FTEs (WDFW) Total: \$6,916,850 \$4,042,000 SRA (WDFW [\$42,000 SRFB grant]) \$ 265,000 ALEA (WDFW) \$ 40,750 RFEG (WDFW) \$2,569,100 GF-S (WDFW)</p>
Responsible Agency (ies)	<p>Cooperative effort with WDFW lead. CC is actively involved in the effort. Other agencies with resources for technical and engineering assistance will be involved. GSRO will participate as needed.</p>

Reg-4.

Action: Expand the development of local watershed salmon responses including responses under the Watershed Planning Act- ESHB 2514, or other comparable planning processes, which address water quantity, water quality, and habitat.

Key Tasks	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Fund additional watershed planning units so at least half of the WRIAs in the state will be managing water resources in an integrated and sustainable manner. New areas will be prioritized so that the 16 critical basins identified in the <i>Statewide Strategy to Recover Salmon- Chapters II and IV.A.5</i> will have a higher priority across the state.2. Work with and support existing planning units on their watershed assessments and plan development.3. Encourage watersheds groups to look for early implementation activities, which will benefit future water for fish and growth.4. Organize state agency caucuses for each watershed planning unit to develop consistent state input into each plan.5. Provide input and assistance to other local watershed planning efforts such as the Tri-County WRIA-level efforts.6. Focus additional discretionary resources towards tangible successful outcomes in three focused watersheds (with fish listings) where there are strong collaborative relationships.7. Coordinate with local entities formed under 2496 and other watershed groups.
Output-work accomplished	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 37 of the state's 62 WRIAs in the state have initiated watershed planning under the Watershed Planning Act.- Complete at least 6 watershed assessments which will provide water balances for each of the WRIAs during the biennium.- Assure all plans with a habitat element developed under the Watershed Planning Act are coordinated with Salmon Recovery Planning Act lead entity salmon habitat efforts and other salmon recovery responses.
Time line & Key milestones	September 1999 and July 2000 - Grants will be provided to support ongoing watershed planning and startup new planning units. July 2001 - Watershed assessments will be completed in 6 planning areas.
Staffing (FTEs) & funding (\$ and sources)	23 FTEs (ECY) Total: \$12,198,000* GF-S (ECY) *\$9 million in grant to support local planning units efforts.
Responsible Agency (ies)	Cooperative effort with ECY as lead. ECY provides staff support, funding and expertise to existing and new planning units across the state. 11 state agencies signed a MOU for coordination on salmon recovery efforts and watershed planning.

Reg-5.

Action: Complete the limiting factors analysis authorized under the Salmon Recovery Planning Act- 2496.

Key Tasks	Develop limiting factors for 41 Water Resources Inventory Areas critical to salmon recovery. Publish limiting factors analysis report (including web site). The reports itemize and prioritize habitat problems that need to be addressed in order to facilitate natural spawning salmon recovery.
Output – work accomplished	First 8 of the reports are completed and available on CD ROM. Those reports are WRIA's 5, 10, 13, 19, 24, 29, 30, and 46.
Timeline & Key milestones	June 30, 2000 - 10 more reports are due including: Nisqually (11), Island County (6), Nooksack (1), Elwah/Dungeness (18), Queets/Quinault (21), Rock-Glade (31), Methow (48), and Lewis (27). June 30, 2001 - complete the remaining 23 WRIAs.
Staffing (FTE) & funding (\$ and sources)	8 FTEs (CC) Total: \$1,986,000 SRA (CC)
Responsible Agency (ies)	Coordinated effort with the CC lead with assistance from Conservation Districts, WDFW, WSDOT, ECY, DNR, the Tribes and local governments.

Reg-6.

Action: Provide grants for salmon recovery, including salmon habitat restoration, land acquisition and planning and technical activities directly supporting salmon recovery.

Key Tasks	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provide state and federal grants for salmon recovery projects and activities selected for funding by the SRFB through an open, competitive process and according to specific funding criteria adopted by the Board.2. Provide \$1 million in grants for Goldsborough Creek restoration.3. Continue to provide funding for land conservation to support salmon recovery objectives using other grant programs such as ALEA and RFEG account.
Output – work accomplished	Salmon recovery funding is provided for habitat restoration and land acquisition activities.
Timeline & Key milestones	Tied to the funding cycles
Staffing (FTE) & funding (\$ and sources)	Total: \$69,211,071 \$23,052,563 SRA (IAC) \$38,553,248 GF-F (IAC \$37,381,248; WDFW \$1,172,000) \$ 6,429,260 SBICA (IAC) \$ 795,000 Other - RFEG (WDFW) \$ 381,000 Other - ALEA (WDFW)
Responsible Agency (ies)	Coordinated effort. The SRFB and the IAC will carry out the above responsibilities. Efforts will be coordinated with the GSRO, WDFW, WSDOT, CC, ECY, DNR and other agencies as needed.

Reg-7.

Action: Administer salmon recovery grants and assist Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) with implementation of the Salmon Recovery Funding Act of 1999 - 2E2SSB 5595.

Key Tasks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff SRFB (includes scheduling, preparing briefing materials, decisions items including projects and activities recommended for funding, arranging public testimony before the Board, etc.) 2. Ensure close coordination and information sharing between SRFB and science groups including the ISP. 3. Assist the SRFB in developing guidelines (e.g. selection criteria, etc.) for salmon recovery funding, and priorities that reflect the <i>Statewide Strategy to Recover Salmon</i>, and local watershed and regional plans. 4. Use guidance from science group and workgroups to develop criteria for salmon project and activity funding related to scientific aspects of salmon recovery.
Output - workload accomplished	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information about salmon recovery grant cycles, grant application policies and procedures, workshop schedules and locations, etc. is provided to the public through regular mailings and over the internet. - Projects and lists of projects are selected for funding by the SRFB through an open, competitive process and according to criteria adopted by the Board. - The SRFB is supported in development of criteria and prioritization, and with linking project funding to watershed and regional recovery goals and/or plans. - Funded projects provide adequate monitoring to determine contractual compliance, effective implementation, and to the extent possible, contribution to overall salmon recovery in the stream or watershed; - Salmon recovery projects are efficiently and timely implemented.
Time line & Key milestones	On-going
Staffing (FTEs) & funding (\$ and sources)	<p>13.6 FTEs (IAC) Total: \$1,853,238 \$457,098 GF-S (IAC \$400,098; WDFW \$57,000) \$870,740 SRA (IAC) \$216,648 SBCA (IAC) \$268,752 GF-F (IAC) \$ 25,000 Other - RFEG (WDFW) \$ 15,000 Other - ALEA (WDFW)</p>
Responsibilities Agency (ies)	Coordinated effort with IAC lead. IAC will carry out the above activities in cooperation and coordination with GSRO, WDFW, ECY, CC, WSDOT, and PSAT.

Reg-8.

Action: Provide grants for land conservation directly supporting salmon recovery.

Key Tasks	1. Continue to provide funding grants for land conservation, which support salmon recovery objectives using Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Habitat Conservation Account.
Output – work accomplished	- Funded projects contribute to overall salmon recovery by protecting critical and natural areas including riparian corridors.
Timeline & Key milestones	Tied to the funding cycles
Staffing (FTE) & funding (\$ and sources)	Total: \$25,000,000 \$25,000,000 SBCA (IAC)
Responsible Agency (ies)	Coordinated effort with IAC lead. IAC carries out the responsibility in coordination with WDFW, Parks, DNR and others as needed.

Reg-9.

Action: Provide technical assistance to help local governments and landowners in developing and implementing salmon friendly actions and plans.

Key Tasks	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. CC staff will continue to provide technical assistance and funding to Conservation Districts, and private landowners for water quality projects related to salmon.2. WDFW regional fishery and habitat biologists will continue to provide technical assistance for water quality and habitat to local governments.3. WDFW, IAC, PSAT, CC and other agencies will continue to assist local entities with development of proposals to protect and restore freshwater and estuarine habitat through restoration projects, conservation easements and property acquisition.4. Ecology and the PSAT will provide technical assistance for water quality, stormwater management and habitat protection to local governments and other entities.
Output – work accomplished	Timely and coordinated technical assistance is provided where needed.
Timeline & Key milestones	On-going
Staffing (FTEs) & funding (\$ and sources)	<p>Total: 2,860,107 \$1,891,088 GF-S (PSAT \$997,788; WDFW \$893,330) \$900,000 SRA (CC) \$ 69,019 GF-F (PSAT)</p> <p>See Sto-4 and Reg-4 for ECY.</p>
Responsible Agency (ies)	Cooperative effort. PSAT, CC, WDFW, and ECY are active participants, each has the lead for its own activity.